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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/664,087	09/16/2003	Chester Lawrence Mallory	TP-1	3723

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Zilka-Kotab, PC  
P.O. BOX 721120  
SAN JOSE, CA 95172-1120

EXAMINER
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GABLER, PHILIP FRANCIS

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3637

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	02/20/2007	PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 10/664,087	<b>Applicant(s)</b> MALLORY ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b> Philip Gabler	<b>Art Unit</b> 3637	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

#### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 15 December 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 and 20-25 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 and 20-25 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 10 July 2006 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)                                | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                       | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application                       |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Drawings*

1. The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a). The drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Therefore, the belly door of the additional door of claim 25 must be shown or the feature canceled from the claim. No new matter should be entered.

Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as "amended." If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1-3, 8-11, and 20-22 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lewis (US Patent Number 5549372).
4. Regarding claims 1 and 22, Lewis (Figures 1, 4, and 5) discloses a security enclosure for a gaming machine system comprising: a gaming machine main housing (1) defining a chamber and having a major opening (at the front of the cabinet); a gaming machine door assembly (the front panel assembly covering the opening) operably connected to the gaming machine main housing and movable between an open position providing external access to the chamber and a closed position securing the major opening (shown only in the closed position, but an open position is discussed in column 2 lines 38-44, for instance); and the gaming machine door assembly comprising a plurality of components (5, 6, 8, 21, 34, 35, etc.), at least some of the components being elongated members (21, 35, etc.) including vertical elongated members and horizontal elongated members having fasteners (viewed as the shaped ends of vertical members 21, 35, for mating with other components) at opposed end portions thereof capable of coupling the vertical elongated members with the horizontal elongated members and facilitating individual finishing of the components (in as much as Applicant's fasteners do so); wherein the components are individually finished (the

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various components, all separable and made of varying material, are viewed as individually finished). Lewis does not specifically disclose fasteners on the each of the elongated members for directly coupling the vertical and horizontal elongated members. He does however disclose fasteners (27, as well as the fasteners mentioned above) for connecting various components of his assembly. Accordingly, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include fasteners at the ends of the elongated members for securing the members because this would insure a solid connection between the components and provide a more solid assembly.

5. Regarding claim 2, Lewis, modified as described above, further discloses the vertical elongated members comprise a pair of opposed vertical stiles (members 21 and 35) each having an upper end, an opposed lower end, and an intermediate portion, the horizontal elongated members including at least one cross member (34) extending between the stiles, the cross member having opposed ends having a fastener engaging a corresponding fastener on each of the stiles.

6. Regarding claim 3, Lewis, modified as described above, further discloses the horizontal elongated members comprise a top rail, an intermediate rail, and a bottom rail (all 34, see Figure 1) extending between the upper ends, intermediate portions, and lower ends of the stiles respectively.

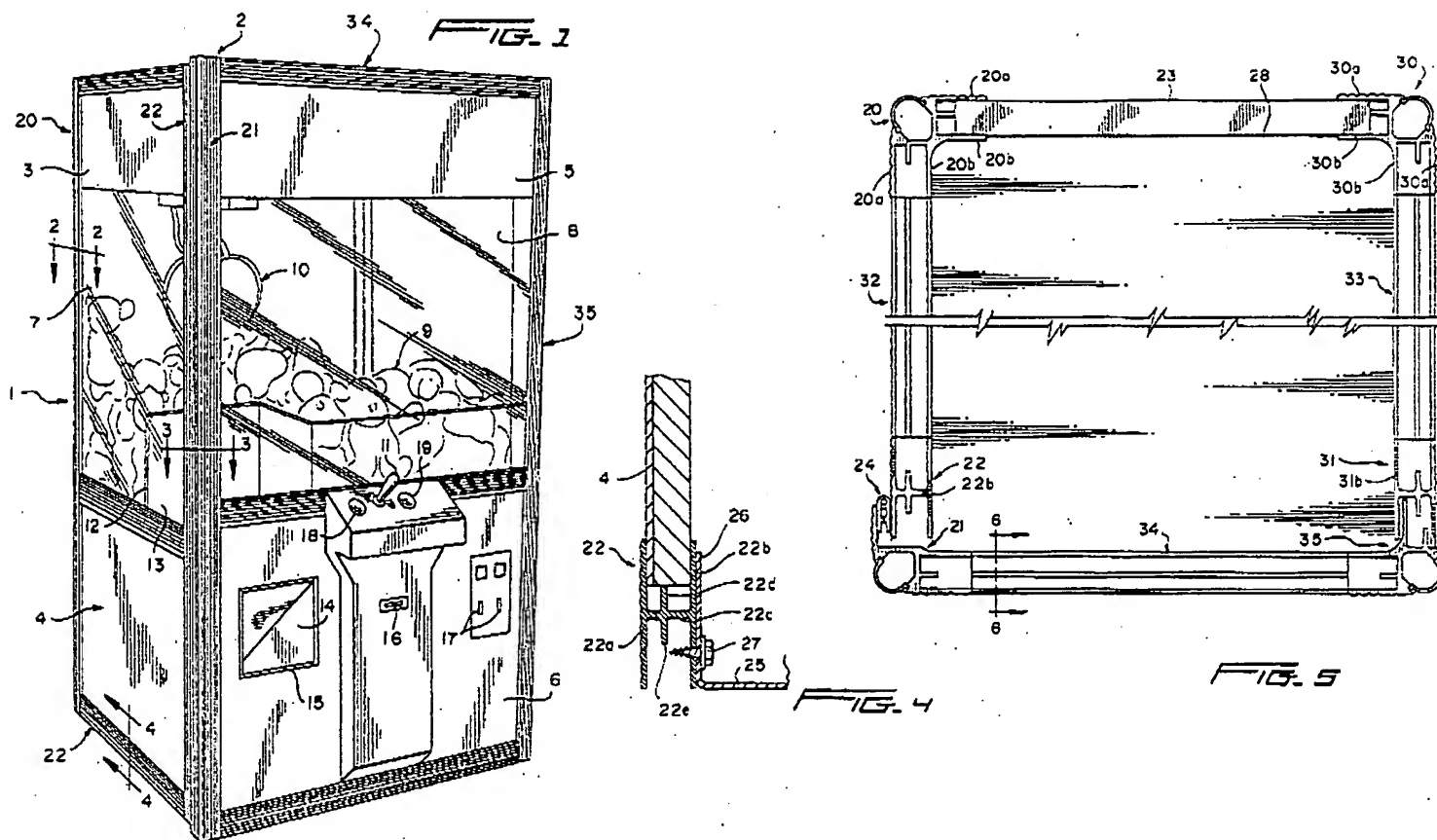
7. Regarding claims 8 and 9, Lewis, modified as described above, discloses the fasteners are threaded studs protruding from end portions of the members.

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8. Regarding claim 10, Lewis further discloses at least one of the door components has a different surface finish than other door components (components 5 and 6, for instance, are finished in a decorative manner, as opposed to component 8, which is not).

9. Regarding claim 11, Lewis further discloses the components are secured closely to each other, such that the gaming machine door assembly is free of gaps to prevent unwarranted entry to the chamber when the gaming machine door assembly is closed (see figures).

10. Regarding claims 20 and 21, Lewis further discloses individual finishing of at least some of the components includes coating or plating (column 2 lines 50-52 describes a laminate, viewed as a coating or plating). [Note that the disclosure specifically refers to panel 4 regarding the surface finish, however, it is clear from the figures and disclosure that panels 3-6 are all to be finished in the same manner.]



Lewis '372 Figures 1, 4, and 5

11. Claims 1-4, 8-11, and 20-25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Halic (US Patent Number 5700195) in view of Lewis.
12. Regarding claims 1 and 22, Halic (Figures 2 and 3) discloses a security enclosure for a gaming machine system comprising: a gaming machine main housing (4) defining a chamber and having a major opening (at the front of the cabinet); a gaming machine door assembly (8) operably connected to the gaming machine main housing and movable between an open position providing external access to the chamber and a closed position securing the major opening (shown only in the closed

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position, but an open position is discussed in column 2 lines 50-52, for instance); and the gaming machine door assembly comprising a plurality of components (viewed as elements A, B, C, D, etc. in Exhibit 1), at least some of the components being elongated members (members A and B for instance) including vertical elongated members and horizontal elongated members. Halic does not specifically disclose fasteners at ends of the components or individual finishing of the members. Lewis discloses an enclosure for a gaming machine system including fasteners (27) for mating ends of elongated components. Accordingly, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use fasteners at the ends of members as taught by Lewis for connecting the various members of Halic's door assembly because this would insure a solid connection between the components and provide a more solid assembly. When modified in this manner, Halic's enclosure system would facilitate individual finishing of his components (in as much as Applicant's device does so). Further, Lewis discloses individually finished components (the various components, all separable and made of varying material, are viewed as individually finished). Accordingly, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to individually finish the various components of Halic's device as taught by Lewis because this would allow a varied and individualized aesthetic as desired by a user by allowing the components to be finished in a manner pleasing to a particular owner or user.

13. Regarding claim 2, Halic, modified by Lewis as described above, discloses the vertical elongated members comprise a pair of opposed vertical stiles (A) each having



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an upper end, an opposed lower end, and an intermediate portion, the horizontal elongated members including at least one cross member (B) extending between the stiles, the cross member having opposed ends each having a fastener engaging a corresponding fastener on each of the stiles (at least a hole for receiving a screw).

14. Regarding claim 3, Halic further discloses the horizontal elongated members comprise a top rail (B), an intermediate rail (C), and a bottom rail (D) extending between the upper ends, intermediate portions, and lower ends of the stiles respectively.

15. Regarding claim 4, Halic further discloses a belly door (10) connected to the gaming machine door assembly and operable between an open position in which a selected one of the rails (D) is visible (see Figure 3), and a closed position in which the selected one of the rails is concealed (see Figure 2, where D is concealed).

16. Regarding claims 8 and 9, Halic, when modified by Lewis as described above, further discloses the fasteners are threaded studs protruding from end portions of the members.

17. Regarding claim 10, Halic, when modified by Lewis as described above, discloses an enclosure as recited in claim 1, but does not specifically disclose door components with different surface finishes. Lewis further discloses at least one of the door components has a different surface finish than other door components (components 5 and 6, for instance, are finished in a decorative manner, as opposed to component 8, which is not). Accordingly, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use varying surface finishes on the

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components of the door as taught by Lewis to alter the aesthetic qualities of the device as desired by a user.

18. Regarding claim 11, Halic, when modified by Lewis as described above, further discloses the components are secured closely to each other, such that the gaming machine door assembly is free of gaps to prevent unwarranted entry to the chamber when the gaming machine door assembly is closed.

19. Regarding claims 20 and 21, Halic when modified by Lewis as describe above, discloses an enclosure as recited in claim 1, but does not disclose coating or plating of components. Lewis further discloses individual finishing of components including coating or plating (column 2 lines 50-52 describes a laminate, viewed as a coating or plating). Accordingly, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use include coating or plating for the components of the enclosure as taught by Lewis to alter the aesthetic qualities of the device as desired by a user.

20. Regarding claims 23 and 24, Halic, when modified by Lewis as described above, further discloses an additional door (10 and associated components) pivotally coupled to the door assembly wherein the additional door conceals at least one of the horizontal elongated members (D) when closed (see figures).

21. Regarding claim 25, Halic, when modified by Lewis as described above, further discloses the additional door includes a belly door (15).

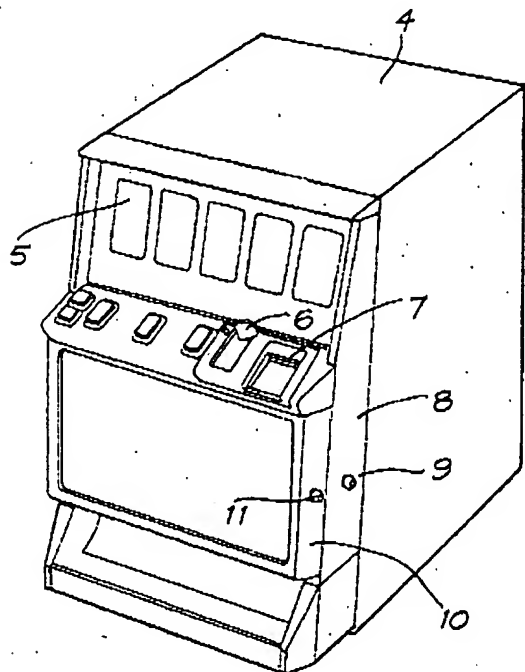


FIG. 2

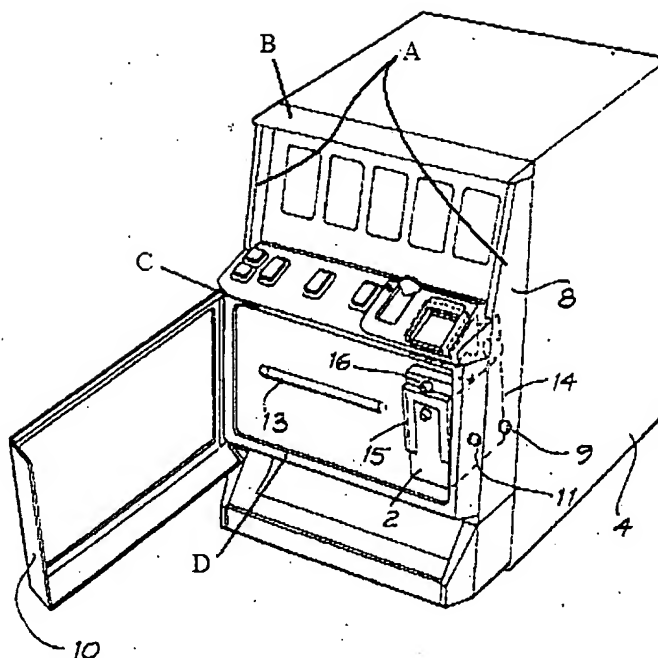


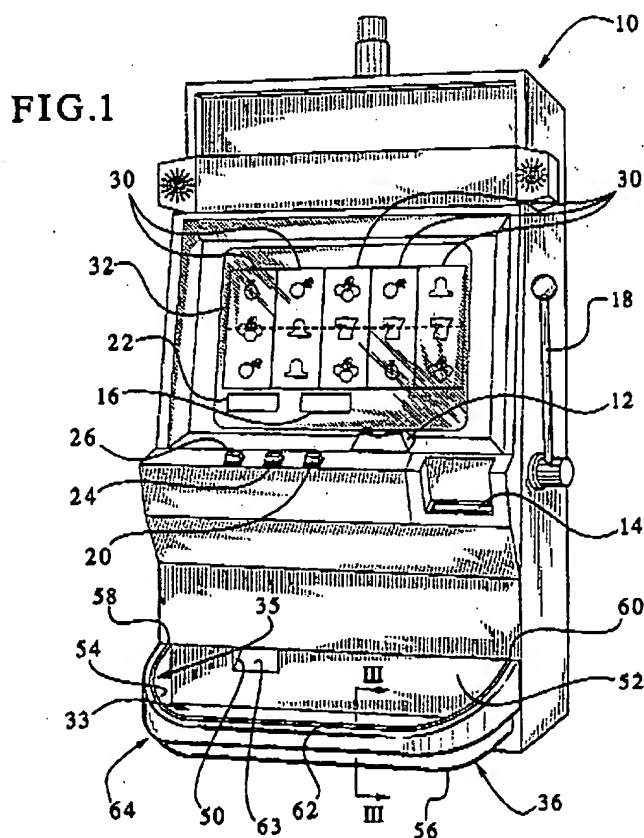
FIG. 3

Exhibit 1: Halic '195 Figures 2 and 3

22. Claims 5 and 6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Halic in view of Lewis and further in view of Hedrick et al. (US Patent Number 6578847). Halic, modified by Lewis as described above, discloses an enclosure as recited in claim 4, but does not disclose specifics of surface finishes. Hedrick (Figure 1) discloses a gaming machine enclosure having horizontal rails (viewed as the various horizontal portions of coin tray 36 – the front portion supporting bumper 64, the rear portion containing aperture 50, the lower portion between the front and rear – as well as other horizontal rail portions of the enclosure), one of the rails provided with a first surface

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finish (the urethane of element 64), others of the rails provided with a second finish (the brushed finish of the aluminum disclosed in column 3 line 66 for instance), the second surface finish being viewed as a higher quality cosmetic finish than the first surface finish (a brushed aluminum rail is viewed as being of better cosmetic quality than a urethane rail). Accordingly, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use varying surface finishes and finish qualities on the rails of Halic's enclosure, previously modified by Lewis, as taught by Hedrick to alter the aesthetic qualities of the device as desired by a user.



Hedrick et al. '847 Figure 1

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23. Claim 7 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Halic in view of Lewis and Hedrick and further in view of Pauer et al. (US Patent Number 5234267). Halic, modified by Lewis and Hedrick as described above, discloses an enclosure as recited in claim 5 including a coating applied directly to a material forming the selected one of the rails, but does not specifically disclose metal plating. Pauer discloses an enclosure incorporating metal plated rails (see the last sentence of the abstract). Accordingly, it would have been obvious to incorporate metal plating in Halic's device, previously modified by Lewis and Hedrick, as taught by Pauer because of the visual effect that this could produce.

### ***Response to Arguments***

24. Applicant's arguments, see remarks, filed 15 December 2006, with respect to the 35 USC 112 claim rejections have been fully considered and are persuasive. The 35 USC 112 claim rejections have been withdrawn.

25. Others of Applicant's arguments filed 15 December 2006 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. As explained above, Lewis is viewed as clearly disclosing fasteners meeting the threaded fastener and stud limitations at ends of elongated members for directly coupling elongated members. While these fasteners are only clearly shown at certain locations, as put forth in the rejection, it is viewed as obvious to extend the use of fasteners to other locations where elongated members meet. Further, Lewis is viewed as disclosing individually finished components in a device capable of facilitating individual finishing as explained in the above rejections.

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His disclosure of a laminate is viewed as sufficient to meet the claim limitations "coating" or "plating" as set forth. Regarding Applicants concerns about the Halic reference, items A and B are part of the door assembly (8) as set forth in the claim rejections. Halic clearly discloses Element 8 as a door (see for example column 2 lines 30-32), with an additional door (element 10) hinged to it in very much the same way as Applicant's invention. Further, while rail B may rest above side rails A, element B nonetheless extends between rails A as required by the claims. Finally, it is noted that Applicant properly challenged the Examiner's issuance of official notice concerning the different surface finishes of the rails as put forth in the previous Office Action. As such, the Examiner added the teaching reference (Hedrick) to support the previous taking of official notice concerning the surface finishes.

26. The remainder of Applicant's arguments with respect to the claims have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

### ***Conclusion***

27. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not

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mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

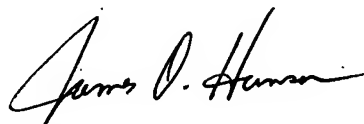
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Philip Gabler whose telephone number is (571) 272-6038. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday, 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Lanna Mai can be reached on (571) 272-6867. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

PFG   
2/1/2007

  
**JAMES O. HANSEN**  
**PRIMARY EXAMINER**